

**INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COUNCIL
COMMITTEE MEETING NOTES**

COMMITTEE: Public Awareness

RECORDER: Kay Ryan

DATE: May 29, 2008

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

PRESENT: Toni Doman, Kathleen Colvin, Shirley Stihler, Stephanie Pringle Fox, Shane Nurnberg, Cal Enriquez

ABSENT: Elaine Fogel Schneider, Tony Anderson, Rebecca Carroll

GUESTS: Gabriel Villaneuva, Wanda Davis, Mac Peterson, ICC Chair; Kevin Brown, DDS, John Redman and Susan Miller, DDS

LIAISONS: Erin Paulsen, DDS; Janet Canning, CDE

MEETING NOTES

I. INTRODUCTIONS AND WELCOME

As part of the introductions, Toni Doman asked those present to share information about current and emerging issues of concern in their communities. This feature will be incorporated as a regular part of future PAC meetings and issues will be brought forward at the ICC meetings. QSDS will compile this information to assist the ICC in identifying and addressing issues of importance to the field.

The two issues brought forward by PAC members are the summer season, which poses challenges for families and service providers alike, and the statewide shortage of professionals to provide needed services, which seems to be worsening. During the summer, many school-based programs close or scale back and children with special needs are left with inadequate programs while their parents try to find other appropriate programs to fill this unstructured time. In some cases, unless parents pay out-of-pocket, many services come to a standstill during the three months of summer. Transitions are also difficult during the summer months as schools are closed. The increasing numbers of referrals are exacerbating the need for more trained service providers.

II. AGENDA REVIEW

The agenda was reviewed and approved.

III. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING NOTES

PAC February 2008 minutes were reviewed and approved.

IV. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Toni Doman provided highlights of the Executive Committee meeting and asked for ideas for future presentations at the ICC. PAC agreed to request presentations on Response to Intervention (RTI) and the 0-5 counterpart called Recognition and Response.

The issue of service provider shortages led to a discussion about what the state is doing to train more Speech and Occupational Therapists and Special Education teachers. Janet Canning reported that the Commission on Teacher Credentialing is working to add communication development authorization to the Education Specialist Instruction Credential. She shared that 9.2 percent fewer people are going into teacher credentialing programs and even fewer are coming out. Janet suggested that PAC might invite a presentation on this issue from the Commission and another about the Early Childhood Special Education Certificate. Both might be components of a presentation about workforce development at a future ICC meeting.

Child find efforts are working and all agreed that the Early Start materials are doing their job. Cal Enriquez reported seeing the Early Start PSA on ESPN and that referrals to WRC had increased during March and April from an average of 80-90 per month to 130. Gabriel Villanueva reported that his program supplements the Early Start materials with a program-specific brochure which contains pictures of participating families and encourages families to share them with others. The one criticism is that the Reasons for Concern brochure, currently being reprinted by CDE, is just a little bit too wide to fit in the brochure holders and must be bent to fit.

V. PRIORITY RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE ICC

PAC members worked on recommendations between meetings via e-mail and a conference call. Those recommendations were discussed and minor edits were made at the meeting. The final recommendations from PAC are attached and reflect a slightly broader focus than the priority to outreach to health care providers. Members were united in their desire for PAC to play a larger role in the development and dissemination of Early Start products.

VI. PARENT LEADERSHIP AWARD PROCESS

Nora Thompson will receive the Parent Leadership Award at tomorrow's meeting in a celebration of her leadership on behalf of families and young children in Early Start. Rick and Toni will give recognition and Linda Landry will read some congratulatory notes. PAC will table discussion about future nomination and award processes until a future meeting.

VIII. DDS UPDATE

Erin Paulsen provided information about the following:

- Record reviews completed since the last meeting for FNRC, HRC, VMRC and RCRC as well as those scheduled through September.
- Early Start Institutes and training, including the Skillbuilder workshop to be held June 4th and 5th in Anaheim and other Institutes held in Foster City in January and March. Her report included the focus of the training, number of participants

and disciplines represented. She also provided information on the Advanced Practice Institute, Regional Center Managers Symposium and a presentation on Natural Environments with the ELARC.

- DDS and CDE are working together to pursue the concept of joint agency monitoring.
- The initial three CAPTA workshops have concluded and CDSS is compiling information from the workshop and considering strategies for ongoing collaboration and support to local areas.
- Mediation and due process. During the last quarter there were four cases resolved involving three Regional Centers. One case was granted, one was denied and two were split.

VIII. OTHER

In the area of interagency collaboration and partnerships, PAC expressed kudos to LA where six of the eight Regional Centers are using the same IFSP form.